

REMARKS

Applicant hereby requests further examination of the subject application in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein.

Examiner required the restriction to one of two groups of claims:

- I. Claims 1-52
- II. Claims 53-81

Applicant hereby elects Group I (Claims 1-52) and has canceled claims 53-81.

Examiner requested that applicant point out the substantial differences between claims 1 and 12. Claim 1 is directed broadly to a composition of matter. In contrast, claim 12, especially as amended herein, is directed specifically to a chromatography column, which is an article of manufacture. Amended claim 12 further recites a chromatography column support as a claim element in the body of the claim; such a limitation is not present in claim 1. The amendment is fully supported in the specification as explained hereinbelow.

Applicant discovered several errors in the specification and has corrected the errors hereinabove. The addition of the word --support-- in paragraph [00103] (and hence amended claim 12) is generic term meaning the outer wall of the column, which is generally known as a support. In paragraph [00104] of the specification, the column is not limited to a tubular shape. Moreover, in Figs. 17a and 17b, element #76 is clearly shown as a support. The support shown is tubular, but can be any shape and configuration, as described in paragraph [00104]. Applicant asserts that the amendment contains no new matter, but merely clarifies subject matter fully disclosed in the as-filed patent application. Therefore, entry of the amendment is earnestly solicited.

Applicants earnestly solicit allowance of claims 1-52, and the issue of U.S. letters patent therefor. Applicant has made every effort to present claims which clearly distinguish over the cited art, and it is believed that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. However, applicant requests that the Examiner call the undersigned (direct line 865-574-4178) if anything further is required by the Examiner prior to issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all claims.

Respectfully Submitted,

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